



# The Epidemic of Corruption has been Identified in South Africa, How do We Solve It?



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## Abstract

This poster seeks to relate the impact of bribery and grand corruption had in South Africa. Within recent times, top officials in this country have been implicated in grand corruption scandals and the taking of bribes. The concerns that remain are the country's ability to persuade its people and convince them that they have a problem of corruption. The objective of this poster is to find solution to combat the many challenges of corruption within South Africa. Also, this poster has researched the impact of uncertainty of how the government has governed the resources of this country. The recommendations of this poster to South Africa are: to elect good governance, with accountability, and rule of law. This poster also analyzes the cause of corruption and the scope of corruption through various journal articles. Consequently, this poster will compare and contrast Chile to South Africa as a case study to implement some of what Chile did in the past to bring the fight to corruption.

**Keywords:** governance, South Africa, grand corruption, bribery, political instability, rule of law, Chile, and challenges.



Left to Right: South Africa's police compared to Chile's police on how protest is handled differently. (aljazeera.com & m3report.wordpress.com)

## Main Arguments

### Some Facts on South Africa:

**Population:** Approximately 53, 675,563 people

**Corruption Perception Index:** Ranking 67th

**Population Living Under the Poverty Line:** 35.9%

**Capital cities:** *Cape Town*, is the legislative capital, *Pretoria*, is the administrative capital and *Bloemfontein*, serves as the judicial capital.

The South Africa (SA) President Jacob Zama was accused of grand corruption, by mispending huge sum of money on his private home. Also, more than 700 cases of corruption charges against him was dropped shortly before his election in 2009. Next, was the SA former police chief and Interpol president (Jackie Seiebi) was also accused and found guilty of taking bribes worth US \$156,000. At the age of 60 he was convicted in 2010 to serve 15 years in prison but he die at the age of 64 on January 23, 2015. Seiebi was a political appointee who had no previous policing experience.

### Causes and consequences of corruption in the South African Public Service

The causes and consequences of corruption in South Africa are related and entrench in the nation's administrative traditions, political expansion, and social history. Corruption thrive as a consequence of institutional weaknesses. The usual incentive of public sector personnel to work effectively has been destabilized by several issues, comprising in the deterioration of civil service wages and advancement separate to performance. Dysfunctional government finances, insufficient supplies and equipment, interruptions in the release of budget coffers, and a damage of administrative purposes have also discouraged employees. The incentive to continue being honest has further been faded as a consequence of senior bureaucrats and political leaders exploiting public office for private gain. The main influences to corruption in the South African public service have been: Unwanted social controls; Outdated laws; Additional demand; Entrepreneurial politics; Bureaucratization; Additional discretion; and Flawed governmental arrangements.

### The impact of corruption

The amount of corruption in a country expands and reduces over time. Corruption occurs when some public servants betray the public interest in search of their own interest. This is where officials distribute commercial permits to some establishments and give special privileges to those who bribe the officials into speeding up contracts. Corruption is destructive for any civilization because it perverts income circulation, deters investments, causes disorganizations and discarded of supplies and damage democracy and ethics. There are many ways corruption can be impact on government such as imposing incompetent rules, it would give an incentive payment to remove rules and regulations. Which, speed up administration, and offering a venture to get approvals quicker by reimbursing for them. The destructiveness of corruption is much wider than one thinks. Studies have shown that development adversely connected with the level of corruption within public servants organizations. There is substantial adverse association in the long term between corruption and percentage of public sector workforces' wage levels to the wage levels of the personnel in the private productive sectors.

### Finding solution to corruption in South Africa

The international community has recommended that combating corruption can only be positive if there is a resilient political commitment from all government sectors of that society to attack the tasks of corruption. There are two things that need to look at seriously in South Africa, they are negatively impacted and what had led corruption in this country. Firstly, the dominant one party system that had been ruling for more than two decades in South Africa; the African National Congress (ANC), which had contributed to corrupt activities within government and the public sector. Finally, the police officers in South Africa need to be better educated to take on police work in this country. When one compares what the government of Chile had done in its country to tackle corruption by making its police force well educated and to have transitional political parties in Chile.

## Conclusion

The challenge that South Africa (SA) face today with bribery and grand corruption in its government and its police service, it can change if only the government change its attitude to enforce their anti-corruption laws. The government of SA had implemented various forms of anti-corruption framework but fail to enact them with any strength. This only shows the weakness in this administration. Nevertheless, Chile had enforced their anti-corruption laws with help from all sectors of its population. Also, the of Chile had invested into its country in the most important areas of its society, for instance, through its educational system and jobs creation.

The way that the South African government could address this major problem of bribery and grand corruption is through education. The government should be able stress on the importance for this society as a whole to realize the possibility for one to have a better country that is least corrupt. It can be done but all sectors of the society would have to be united. Therefore, South Africans who have thought by making corruption become their normal way of lives that only help in the short term but for the long term there are consequences. This would only adds pressure on the society where the government would not be able to provide for its people basic needs. As a matter of fact, this will affect the poorer people of the population of SA more than any other group within its society.

Finally, for SA to gain the respect of the outside world and fully advance economically it had to find ways to solve this epidemic of corruption that seems to be spreading like wild fire. Furthermore, for this to happen, this administration would have to be more transparent and honest to the people of SA. The country of SA would have to limit its corrupt practices immensely.



These two photos were taken from Google Image they are: Jackie Seiebi (in uniform) and the President of South Africa, Jacob Zuma.

## Key Questions

- ◆ The objective of this poster is to find solution to combat the many challenges of corruption within South Africa.
- ◆ How could South Africa attain solutions to bribery and grand corruption?
- ◆ How does South Africa find good governance with accountability and rule of law?
- ◆ Why does one anti- corruption framework work effectively in one country and the other it does not?



Villagers' huts in front of security fencing surrounding Jacob Zuma's Nkandla home. Photograph taken by: Rogan Ward// Reuters



Image caption the renovation on Mr. Zuma's home include an animal enclosure and a swimming pool. (www.bbc.com)

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